

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: SAWAJIRI et al

Appln. No. 10/032,326

Date Filed: December 31, 2001

For: STRIKER OF VEHICLE DOOR LATCH DEVICE...

Art Unit: 3677

Examiner, W.S.Fee

Washington, D.C.

Atty.'s Docket: SAWAJIRI-2

Date: August 12, 2002

Confirmation No. 4583

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a [X] REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT in the above-identified application.

[] Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted

[] Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. §1.27.

[XX] No fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA EQUALS
TOTAL	*	MINUS	** 20	0
INDEP.	*	MINUS	*** 4	0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				

SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x 9	\$
x 42	\$
+ 140	\$
ADDITIONAL FEE TOTAL	
	\$

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x 18	\$
x 84	\$
+ 280	\$
TOTAL	
	\$

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (total or independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment of the number of claims originally filed.

[XX] Conditional Petition for Extension of Time

If any extension of time for a response is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.

[] It is hereby petitioned for an extension of time in accordance with 37 CFR 1.136(a). The appropriate fee required by 37 CFR 1.17 is calculated as shown below:

Small Entity

Response Filed Within

[] First - \$ 55.00

[] Second - \$ 200.00

[] Third - \$ 460.00

[] Fourth - \$ 720.00

Month After Time Period Set

Other Than Small Entity

Response Filed Within

[] First - \$ 110.00

[] Second - \$ 400.00

[] Third - \$ 920.00

[] Fourth - \$ 1440.00

Month After Time Period Set

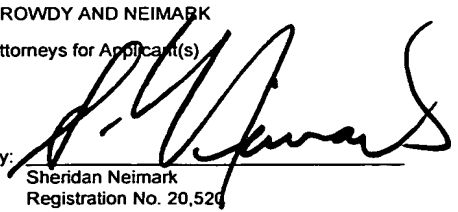
[] Less fees (\$) already paid for month(s) extension of time on

[] Credit Card Payment Form, PTO-2038, is attached, authorizing payment in the amount of \$.

[XX] The Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4035. This authorization and request is not limited to payment of all fees associated with this communication, including any Extension of Time fee, not covered by check or specific authorization, but is also intended to include all fees for the presentation of extra claims under 37 CFR §1.16 and all patent processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 throughout the prosecution of the case. This blanket authorization does not include patent issue fees under 37 CFR §1.18.08/23/2002 WASHINGTON 02/000000-000000-000000
01 FC:115 110.00 CR

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: SAWAJIRI=2

In re Application of:)	Art Unit: 3677
)	
Yukio SAWAJIRI et al)	Examiner: W.S. Fee
)	
Appln. No.: 10/032,326)	Washington, D.C.
)	
Date Filed: December 31, 2001)	Confirmation No. 4583
)	
For: STRIKER OF VEHICLE DOOR)	August 12, 2002
LATCH DEVICE AND...)	

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED
AUG 14 2002
GROUP 3600

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

08/23/2002 ~~WASHINGTON 00000000 08/23/2002 110.00 CR~~ Replying to the Office Action mailed June 3, 2002,
01 FC:115 setting a term for reply of three months, applicants respond
as follows:

Applicants have claimed priority from their corresponding application filed in Japan, and have filed a certified copy of the Japanese priority application. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the PTO to acknowledge receipt of applicants' paper filed under \$119.

The PTO has required restriction between what it deems to be two patentably distinct inventions as outlined at the top of page 2 of the official action. Applicants accept that the two groups are patentably distinct from one another, and therefore respectfully and provisionally elect Group I, directed to the latch and presently comprising claims 1-10, without prejudice and without traverse.

As the election is made without traverse, the examiner is hereby authorized to delete claim 11 by examiner's amendment upon allowance of claims 1-10. Applicants advise that they intend to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected and patentably distinct method, including the subject matter of non-elected claim 11. The cancellation of claim 11 from the present application and the filing of a divisional application is intended to be without prejudice to the present invention and without prejudice to applicants' rights, including those rights provided by Sections 121, 120 and 119.

Applicants respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits of the elected subject matter of claims 1-10.

Respectfully submitted,

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